



SANTAC

Southern Africa Network Against Trafficking And Abuse Of Children

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EDITORIAL

Lessons from the Germany 2006 World Cup (WC), where prostitution is legalized, to Southern African today's reality, where prostitutions' lobbyists demand decriminalization or legalization of prostitution, supports the view of anti-trafficking movement that all prostitution is a violation of human rights. Child protection lobbyists demand also that SADC governments must adopt laws to penalize those who take advantage or buy children for exploitation in demand countries, before the 2010 World Cup, in South Africa.

Still considered an evil by African cultures, prostitution, today, is connoted with increasing of organized crime, in particular, the human trafficking. Trafficking "in women and children" (re)appeared on the United Nations



Assembly General agenda and Human Rights Commission, the World Conference on Human Right in Vienna (1993), the World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995), and is included in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). All this has culminated with 2000 United Nations Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish in cases oh human trafficking, specially women and children. SADC countries have ratified this instrument except Angola, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

The United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (Resolution 317), adopted in 1949, explains in its preamble that "prostitution and the accompanying evil of the traffic in persons for the purpose of prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and endanger the welfare of the individual, the family and the community."

(cont on page 3)

Child Trafficking

A True cross-border Case between Mozambique and South Africa

Margarida Guitunga *

Aldina dos Santos, involved in an evident human trafficking case, is the first trafficker to face justice at the South African Pretoria Regional Court, in a country where human trafficking is not a crime. Consequently, the trial has been postponed three times, and dos Santos's lawyers (three) have resigned in succession since her detention in April 2008. Now she got her fourth defence lawyer, recently appointed by the South African Attorney General.

Dos Santos has been jailed and is standing trial since April 2008 in connection with an alleged sexual exploitation of three Mozambican girls, at Moreleta Park, in Pretoria, South Africa. The girls, between 14 and 20 years old were rescued by the police from Diana's private captivity where they stayed for three months since Diana brought them from Mozambique in February 2008. Accordingly, they were not only exploited, tortured and abused sexually, by deprived of their liberty.

A pretty 29-year old woman, dos Santos known better by her nickname "Diana" holds a dual citizenship (South African and Mozambican) and is the bearer of three passports, each showing a different birth place, somewhere in Mozambique. Her Angolan boy-friend escaped to somewhere in the United States days after her detention, and her first lawyer, a Congolese man, travelled to South Africa (less than 24 hours after her detention) in a private plane and saw his apply for bail refused by the Police. The same lawyer offered unsuccessfully a two-million rand bribe to buy the silence of the denouncer, a Mozambican whose sensitivity to child sexual abuse drove him to report the case to police.

This case has mobilised the police and high profile judicial institutions from both countries, including the Supreme Court, and others like, diplomatic corps, civil society, religious movements, local and cross-borders NGO's from both countries. Most people, in representation of their institutions have travelled to Pretoria to witness the trial due the fact that Diana's case is not just a case. There is circumstantial evidence suggesting that she is part of an organized crime syndicate with connections inside South Africa from Cape to Mpumalanga, connecting all Southern Africa and beyond, whose "core business" are

young girls, who end up as sex slaves in South African brothels, common hotels, guest and private houses.

Which laws?

South Africa has no specific legislation against human trafficking but has ratified and is committed to the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish in cases of Human Trafficking, especially women and Children, also known as the "Palermo Protocol". When trafficking is related to sexual exploitation in this country there is an alternative instrument typified as "Sexual Offences Amendment Act" under which "Diana" may be convicted. However, some law enforcement agents and human rights activists defend that this legal instrument is not enough to give a wholesome response to a human trafficking case because it does not cover all the processes, but only one side of one of trafficking purpose: the sexual exploitation.



As Joan van Niekerk, Childline South Africa National Coordinator, mentioned in her story "The Sexual Offences Amendment Act: Implications for Children" this Act has both positive and negative implications for the care and

protection of children. The Act does not: (1) cover psycho-social services to victims; (2) remove the cautionary rule attached to the evidence of children; (3) ensure that all child witnesses may testify "in camera"; (4) to remove the "competency test" for young children who may be screened out as able to testify.

According to South African judiciary sources, if South Africa had a specific law on human trafficking, this trial would not be taken as a complex experience for Diana's lawyers, quoted as the main responsible for the constant postponing of the final trial session. For those who are familiar with Palermo Protocol, "Diana's story" is a true case of human trafficking. This was more evident when

* SANTAC Executive Director

The recruitment

Attracted by the sophisticated style of a Mozambican young woman coming from South Africa, driving one of her two top model cars, (a "Pajero"), the girls did not resist "Diana's invitation", seeing it as a great opportunity to return back home just like her. When recruited, the girls were about one week to return to school but they didn't even say goodbye to their parents, an attitude that shocked most of children and young people in Mozambique. But, it's not all: "How responsible are the families and communities on their duties of protecting their children?" - asked the Mozambican Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Taibo Mucobora, in a public debate at Radio Mozambique national broadcasted programme. The Mozambican Police HQ Spokesperson, Mr. Pedro Cossa placed the emphasis on community and family behaviour. He seriously criticised, for instance, the three girls parents for their apathy after the disappearance of their children from home. "None of them reported to any police station when the children disappeared".

The girls where recruited at the "Costa do Sol" beach in Maputo on a Sunday evening, but did not disclose the route they used to South Africa and who were Diana's accomplices, when they reported their story. At last but not least, this case has turned up as a great opportunity for community education and public awareness, and promoted an open dialogue with young people, communities, politicians and parliamentarians. Now, Mozambicans have no doubts that human trafficking is a reality.

EDITORIAL (cont from page 1)

In 1959, United Nations considered and recommended an abolitionist policy for regulation of prostitution as a necessary prerequisite to any program of action to combat the trafficking in persons.

However, preliminary findings from studies been conduct by SANTAC reveal that there are some secret schools of prostitution in some touristic areas of SADC countries involving young kids and "entrepreneurs" from Africa, Europe, Japan and America who are acting with impunity. This clarifies that the local and international syndicates of pedophiles and traffickers who see the 2010 WC as "the next BIG BOOM" have occupied already, their positions under legalized companies with hidden agenda.

Thus, the difference between the recent international sporting events and the upcoming 2010 WC in Africa is that in countries where international events occurred recently governments adopted measures against the internal demand and international human traffickers. They have also prevented the entry of international victims of trafficking into their borders.

For most of SADC governments (now concerned with the next elections) promote initiatives to prevent sexual, labor or any other type of exploitation of children is not a priority, and some of them may considers human trafficking as an imported concept.

Studies conducted from 2003 to 2008 from SANTAC members in Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Mozambique (1) converged with the finding that South Africa is not only a transit and source country of human trafficking but the main destination of trafficked children where they are subjected to forced prostitution, and other type of exploitation.

South Africa as a demand country, and other SADC countries considered sources countries of human trafficking in the region must take this threat seriously to ensure that the first FIFA World Cup in Africa is a success.

Legalizing prostitution as prostitutes lobbyists claim to be a protective measure against "abuses from police officers" is not only against "UBUNTU" (comfort in Zulu) values but a disastrous political decision which constitutes a betrayal to vulnerable and innocent people who expects from their elected governments rational decisions to fight poverty and promote credible protection systems against those who take poverty and other social vulnerabilities as opportunities for illicit "business", including the prostitution of others.

The use of words like "SEX WORKERS" is now common in some speeches of official meetings.

However, legitimate and promote prostitution as an employment solution is note only an offence for those who practice it as victims of the political choices and local and international economic systems adopted by our governments but, and above all, the promotion of organized crime given its intrinsic connection with violence, money laundering, illegal migration, corruption, HIV..

It is also hoped that SADC countries will follow the example of Sweden in penalizing who buy women for commercial sexual exploitation (Ekberg, 2004). According to experts on organized crime, "this law has made trafficking an unprofitable activity in Sweden because it has had a chilling effect on the male demand for prostitution, making it very difficult for traffickers to do a flourishing business there" (National Criminal Investigation Department, 2003).

(1) <http://www.santac.org>



Legislation, Law enforcement and international commitments for Child Protection

A few years from regional integration in SADC region, Child Protection is slightly moving from a privilege for a human right based perspective in Southern Africa, with President Armando Guebuza promulgating the three laws adopted recently by the parliament, including the law against human trafficking, one of the most aberrant and violent transnational form of child abuse in 21st century. The main revelation of these processes is that the three laws are not only inspired on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Children and Palermo Protocol, but on the respect of the participation principle, involving civil society and children themselves in this process, which started four years ago.

The other laws are: “Child Protection”, also known as the constitution of children which defines the State, family and society guiding principles on child related subjects, including protection against prostitution, human trafficking, illegal sexual practices, abuse, neglecting, mistreatment, early marriage, economic exploitation, among others. The law on “Jurisdictional Organization of Minors” aims to update legislation related to adoptions, assistance to children in conflict with law and from divorced parents. It defines also the jurisdictional process roles established by law in accordance with CRC principles.

The law against “Human Trafficking, especially Women and Children” incorporate new type of related crimes but the condemnations and aggravating circumstances will be significantly increased after the government regulation.



When civil society representatives from SADC countries launched the campaign against child abuse in 2002 in Maputo, with the blessing of Nelson Mandela and Graça Machel, they demanded an immediate law reform, legislation, law enforcement, policies, bilateral and multilateral agreements for protection of children from abuses, negligence, violence, exploitation and trafficking for any purpose in SADC region, the Mozambican government of then, now continued with President Guebuza at the helm, has promised in front of more than 5,000 children and in the presence of Madiba (Nelson Mandela) and SADC Ambassadors and High Commissioners, to contribute for a Southern Africa as a respectable place for children, were they can feel happy and free.

On behalf of children's rights

Local Court in Maputo sentences two Turkish

Law enforcement for child protection become a social reality in Mozambique with two men sentenced to one year imprisonment and forced to pay more than USD 60,000 of compensation to victims of mistreatment and sexual abuse in a private house used as a home center for poor children from different northern, central and southern provinces of the country.

Following a complaint by one of the children to his teacher in a public school, 17 young boys aged between 12 and 17 years old, were recently rescued from the house, where, according to them, they were subjected to mistreatment including sexual abuse and several types of physical aggression. The perpetrators, two Turkish men, came to Mozambique with a tourist visa.

The children were recruited at several provinces of Mozambique, with their parent's agreement, with the promise of studying, in Maputo.



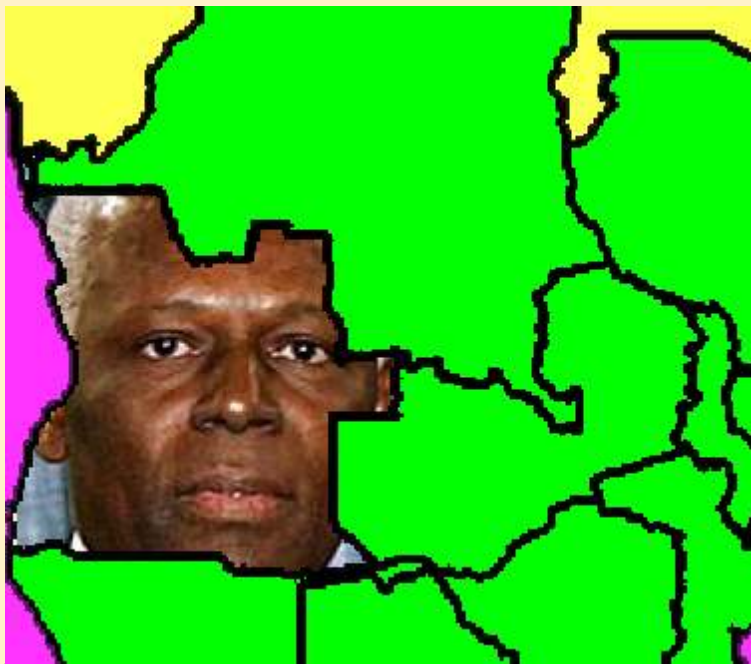
The two condemned Turkish

Angola

Government committed to fight Child Trafficking with Civil Society

After Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia Angola was the fourth SADC country to hold a nationwide workshop on child trafficking as a governmental initiative in collaboration with civil society and UNICEF. The Angolan Child National Institute of Angola (INAC) was the driver and the host of this workshop whose goal was to unite and joint efforts of all governmental sectors, civil society organizations and church leaders to make recommendations on a draft of a national policy for child protection in the country. To this effect, about 60 participants attended the seminar, representing civil society organizations, local child protection networks (Luanda, Huila and Zaire), provincial INAC directors and delegates (Kuando Kubango, Moxico, Cabinda, Zaire, Uíge and Luanda), Internal Affairs, Justice, Migration and Police.

To get a perspective of a comparative situational analysis and exchange experiences between regions, the Angolan government whose territory borders with four countries(Congo Brazzaville, D. R. Congo, Zambia and Namibia) invited the Mozambican national network, Rede CAME through the Coordinator, Carlos Manjate and SANTAC Executive Director, Margarida Guitunga, to facilitate the seminar and make a situational analysis of the situation in the region and in Moçambique particularly, with technical and financial support of Terre des hommes Germany and UNICEF Angola.



Angola was represented with 3 governmental members and 3 representatives from civil society at SANTAC Conference on Child Trafficking held in 2007 in Johannesburg

In her opening statement, Dr. Eufrazina Maiato, the INAC President, considered child trafficking as today's most dangerous and serious problem for millions of children and their families in the world. "With the increasing of socio-economic differences and disparities between regions and between countries, the possibility of human trafficking is also rampant" - she said, adding that the situation is such horrible that the United Nations recommended in 2000 the production and adoption of various conventions and protocols, including the Palermo Protocol (that Angola is yet to ratify).

The workshop main issues included a reflection on general concepts and practices in the context of human trafficking; a mapping out of the principal manifestations

and incidences of child trafficking in Angola; the identification of possible interventions strategies for short, medium and long term, having in mind the responsibility of civil society and the different sectors of the Angolan state; and the establishment of a working platform among the different actors of child protection interventions.

Does child trafficking exists in Angola?

When participating in foreign fora, Angolan governmental representatives are careful and have no conclusive revelations on the status of human trafficking until they carry out their studies. At the present workshop, some participants from the provinces of Zaire, Cabinda, Huila and Lunda-Sul have reported that there is child trafficking in Angola, but not in an organised and systematic form.

They revealed that manifestations of CT in Angola include the recruitment of children from one province to another; Child kidnappings to foreign countries with lucrative purposes; as well as babies from hospitals.

Conclusions and recommendations
Participants recommended:

- ? The realization of a national study on Child Trafficking;
- ? Development of a systematized database;
- ? Ratification of the Palermo Protocol;
- ? Revision of the penal code typifying trafficking crime and adjusted to the international jurisdictional norms;
- ? Promote awareness campaigns, public education and information;
- ? Training of social actors and law enforcement agents.

Angola was represented by 3 governmental members and three representatives from civil society at SANTAC Conference on Child Trafficking held in 2007 in Johannesburg, South Africa. As a SANTAC founding member, Angola was the third SADC country to constitute its national wide network against child trafficking, CCTAC (Coalition Against Child Trafficking), after Mozambique and Malawi, in the context of the Regional Campaign Against Child Abuse launched in 2002, in Maputo, following the recommendations of SANTAC Patrons, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Graça Machel.(mg)

2010 FIFA World Cup in Southern Africa

THE BIG BOOM

The 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa and the exploitation of children may become two faces of the same coin in Southern Africa where, despite its enormous and enjoyable tourism potential and other natural “riches”, poverty, worsened by inadequate legal framework and incipient law enforcement, are attracting traffickers and potential traffickers who believe that the abuse and exploitation of vulnerable people can continue with relatively little risk of detection or penalty in Southern Africa (1).

If the 2010 FIFA World Cup is viewed by south African investors as a “massive boost to the South African economy”, bringing tourists, creating jobs, driving investment, boosting infrastructure investment, “traffickers may also view the 2010 as a short-long term business opportunity”, in the SADC region. This assertion is made in light of trends spotted on previous sporting events which were highlighted in a report (2) by the “Future Group”, which concluded that “there was a 95% increase in the number of human trafficking victims identified by Greek authorities in 2004”. According to the report, the number of known trafficking victims doubled in the same year if compared with the 2003 figures.

“There are, at least, two main ways that international sporting events may affect human trafficking in the host country” - says the report adding that the international sporting events may contribute to a short-term increase in demand for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation in, and around, the local of the event; and may also facilitate the entry of trafficked persons as “visitors” before they are transited to other cities or countries where they become victims of exploitation (2).

The first FIFA World Cup in Africa will be held from June 11 to July 11, in nine South African cities, namely Johannesburg, Tshwane/Pretoria, Durban, Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Bay/Port Elizabeth, Mangaung/Bloemfontein, Polokwane, Rustenburg and Nelspruit. It is also expected that other countries in Southern Africa, like Mozambique, for example, may benefit from this “massive boost”.

About 3.36 million people from the different corners of the world attended the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany. It is expected that thousands of people visit South Africa

during the period “where the matches will have an estimated cumulative worldwide audience of between 26 and 30 million people” - as the South African Real Estate INVESTOR magazine reveals in its Nov-Dec 2007 edition. Enormous financial benefits are expected in terms of tourism, (3)marketing and other services across the country, as well as a massive worldwide exposure for South Africa.



In the context of this “big boom”, President Thabo Mbeki is also quoted by the South African media as having promised that South Africa can use this example to provide “the best World Cup”.

Unfortunately, no SADC country, including the World Cup host is taking any specific measures or activities to counter human trafficking, especially of children, in connection with the event. Analysts say that there is “a risk that an expected increased demand for prostitution during the world cup could be filled by human trafficking victims.” Some of them or the majority may be below 18 and are likely to come from South Africa itself and

other SADC countries, especially, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique Malawi and Lesotho.

Simultaneously “traffickers may attempt to bring trafficked persons posing as “visitors” into South Africa for the World Cup only to exploit them in other cities or transit them into other Southern African Countries, where HIV infections is another threat (4).

(1) Profiling traffickers (016 UN.GIFT workshop)

(2) <http://tfgwebmaster.web.aplus.net/wwwthefuturegroup.org/>

(3) <http://www.thislondon.co.uk/>

(4) In 2007, this sub-region accounted for almost 1/3 (32%) of all new HIV infections and AIDS deaths. 35% of all people living with HIV live in this sub-region. (2007 sub-Saharan Africa: aids epidemic update regional summary, UNAIDS)

SANTAC lobbying African Union & NEPAD

SANTAC held a bilateral meeting with the UNICEF Regional Counselor for African Union and NEPAD programmes, Dr. Micaela Marques de Sousa, on the 19th of May to share experiences and discuss possible ways SANTAC could collaborate with the African Union to advocate for children's rights. The meeting was attended by Dr. Carlos Manjate, Rede CAME Coordinator, Dr. Lea Boaventura from TdH and SANTAC Secretariat.

Some of the points discussed include the following:

- Discussions around the second Pan-African forum on children that took place in October last year in Cairo, with the main objective of calling for accelerated action on the implementation of a plan of action towards Africa fit for children (2008-2012). In relation to this, discussions were centered around the role SANTAC can play in the protection of children's rights at the African Union level;
- Shared experiences on the Thuthuzela programme, a South African one stop center, which deals with issues of child rights violations in South Africa, which was approved as a prevention model for children's rights by the former UN General Secretary Mr. Kofi Annan. Thuthuzela programme was considered a success that could be explored by SANTAC at regional level;
- It was also discussed possible ways in which SANTAC can work with the African Union to advocate for children's rights.



From left to right Mr. Carlos Manjate, Rede CAME Coordinator, Mrs. Lea Boaventura from TdH Germany Deputy Regional Coordinator, Dr. Micaela de Sousa UNICEF Advisor for AU and NEPAD, Mrs.M. Guitunga, SANTAC Exec. Director and Mrs. F. Pastorelli from SANTAC

Valencia Congress on trafficking supports Southern Africa

This Congress held on May 2008 and organized by Terre des Hommes Spain under the lemma "Stopping Child Trafficking" brought together delegates from across the world to critically reflect about the causes of the "serious violations of infancy rights". Participants discussed possible ways for the restoration of the violated rights. In this context,

SANTAC Patron, Mrs. Graça Machel sent a message that was presented at the Conference, which part of its content was included in the "Valencia Declaration" adopted by the congress, emphasising the need of prevention of expected exacerbation of child trafficking ahead of 2010 football World Cup, taking place in South

Child Trafficking

A True cross-border Case between Mozambique and South Africa *(cont from page 2)*

the girls reported to media that they were attracted by promises of scholarships and employment at Diana's hair saloon in South Africa. They also revealed that they travelled in Diana's car from Maputo to her house at Moreleta Park, in Pretoria, and crossed the border between the two countries without passports. Furthermore, they mentioned that they were hosted by "Diana" in her rented luxury house, sited on one of the elite condominiums of the South African political capital of Pretoria. Once there the girls revealed - they were not allowed to move out, except in her company or with her friends or "clients" to the "broad hell" or hotels where the girls where sexually and slavery abused by the users, averaging over ten per day for each girl (1).

Mozambique has recently adopted its law against human trafficking but this law is not regressive. This means that if "Diana had to go for a trial in Mozambique she wouldn't be convicted under the recent trafficking law because, at the time she recruited, transported, hosted, deprived of liberty, sexually exploited, abused and promoted abuses against the girls, there was no anti-trafficking law in the country. But, under the article 18th of Mozambican Constitution, "all the international laws must come into effect, once ratified by the government".

The recent adoption of the legislation by government and parliament is a clear evidence of the Mozambican political will and existence of a powerful civil society, but there is still a long way to go before the laws become effective. Foremost, it is an imperative, for instance, to define regulation assuring the implementation of the law in a process that requires technical, human and financial resources with the inclusion of a new budget line in the implementing agencies general budget. The best case scenario is for this to be contemplated, probably, in the Mozambican government budget for 2009.

(1) The demand on children for sexual purposes is rampant in South Africa - confirmed by SANTAC "Situation Analysis on the Abuse and Trafficking of Children in Southern Africa"

World's Children's Prize for the Best



Gabatshwane
South Africa

Since 2004 SANTAC has been implementing the World's Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child (WCPRC). This is the largest annual programme in education and learning of children's rights, democracy and world friendship. Presently, it covers more than 37,000 schools in a total of 17 million pupils in 92 countries.

Southern Africa was honored, in 2005, when Nelson Mandela and Graça Machel and, last year, Betty Makoni, from Zimbabwe, were awarded the WCPRC.

This year's awarding ceremony, took place on the 18th of April at the Gripsholm Castle, in Mariefried, Sweden, where Queen Silvia helped children hand the awards to the laureates. Southern Africa has the privilege to have three



Isabel
Mozambique

of seventeen jury members Miss Gabatshwane Gumedede (South African) representing children AIDS orphans, Miss Isabel Mathe (Mozambican) representing children with physical disabilities and children who have been injured in war and Mr. Bwami Ngandu (Congolese), representing child soldiers and children in conflict.

In this edition, 6,593,335 children from the whole world participated in the voting process, and granted their award, the children's world prize to Somaly Mam, from Cambodia, who in 12 years has been rescuing young girls sold as slaves to brothels. As a child, Somaly herself was a sex slave. The award of honor from the children of the world was awarded to Josefina Condori, from Peru and Agnes Stevens from USA.



Bwami
D.R. Congo

US Embassy in Maputo supports Civil Society

The government of United States represented by its Embassy in Maputo, and Civil Society organizations working in the child protection field, represented by Rede CAME, recently signed a funding agreement of US\$ 300, 000. The event took place, publically in a hotel in the presence of different personalities and actors involved in anti-trafficking activities.

Sabina dos Santos, the Deputy Chairperson of Rede CAME said that the amount will be used for the continuation of Rede CAME activities on community education, public awareness, advocacy and dissemination of the trafficking law, recently adopted by the Mozambican state.

The first agreement between Rede CAME and the United States embassy took place in 2005 and was determinant for the coordinating activities of civil society in its process of advocacy towards a specific legislation on human trafficking in Mozambique.



US Chargés d'Affaires handing the cheque to Rede CAME Deputy Chairperson

SANTAC members fighting together to make the difference

The Southern Africa Network against Trafficking and Abuse of Children (SANTAC) held its 2nd General Assembly Meeting on the 4 April 2008 at the Natural History Museum in Maputo, Mozambique. The meeting was attended by over 20 representatives of SANTAC members. Amongst the issues discussed were those related to SANTAC representation at national level; amendment of the statutes; election of General Assembly Deputy Chairperson; presentation of the Board of Director's report; and, presentation and discussion of the 3 years strategic plan.



From left to right, Audit Board President Mrs. R. Valente, Deputy Chairperson Mrs. M. Kiremire and General Assembly Chairperson Mr. P. Solomons

Conclusions

Considering the nature and the complexities related to the work that the Secretariat together with the members are faced with, there were several conclusions drawn on how best to proceed so as to achieve the objectives for which SANTAC was created. Some of these conclusions include the following:

- National organizations in each country to select one representative to SANTAC;
- It was further decided that General Assembly voting process will henceforth be on the principle of one country one vote;
- SANTAC must launch an international campaign in connection with 2010 World Cup.

Child Helpline with Child Trafficking in the Agenda

Child Helpline organizations are planning interventions in the child trafficking area as a response to SANTAC's call in 2007 in Entebbe, at the III African Conference of Child Helpline.

Child Helpline main focus is traditionally rescuing, counseling and referring children victims of assault and domestic sexual abuse through hotlines installed at local and national level in the majority of SADC countries in partnership with the Child Helpline International in Holland and Plan International.

With new scenarios of rampant cases of transnational child trafficking, Child Line organisations are looking for the possibility for the establishment of a regional free line before the FIFA 2010 World Cup in South Africa. The newest member of Child Line in SADC region is Mozambique which started by establishing a free line two years ago with the involvement of Rede da Criança (a child protection network), Rede CAME and Save the Children Norway.



Curiosities

Luis Clemente

Five years ago, SANTAC member, Molo Songololo, the Cape-based children's organisation and, later the International Organisation for Migration alerted SADC countries that trafficking for sex is a major problem throughout Southern Africa.

Today, an article originally published in CapeTimes by Natasha Joseph, extracted from a new book "Selling Sex in Cape Town" by Chandre Gould reveals that contrary to popular belief most of Cape Town's prostitutes are not victims of human trafficking and that there are hardly any child prostitutes in the city.

Gould also argues that researchers found that sex workers are not "victims who are in *the sex industry* waiting to be rescued because, according to her, they enter the sex work industry for rational reasons, primarily because it offers better earning prospects and greater flexibility than other available opportunities". In addition, Gould, argues that findings also reveal that "Sex work provides cash in hand in place of a month-long wait for a salary and that the majority of *sex workers* do not do the work because they enjoy it - although a small number do - and would prefer alternative work if it offered the same returns and flexibility".

Vuyokazi one of Cape Town's 250 outdoor prostitutes, one of the interviewees of the study, mentioned that she was raped "by a black client" after a couple of weeks on the road and is now HIV-positive (Natasha, 2008). Moreover, she mentioned that "Coloured men are the worst clients because they hate you once they've had sex with you. They're abusive and call you names and that Black men are very rough and they hurt you. The whites, on the other side, are nice and that they're gentle, but don't look you in the eyes," Vuyokazi said.

"They are already vulnerable to abuse by clients and other third parties and are made even more vulnerable by the police," Gould said.

Vuyokazi said she wants to get out of the sex trade because "otherwise I might die on that road". "Since I started working in the roads I don't like myself any more. I'm not feeling good about myself and about my life and what I'm doing". "I'm ashamed. I want somebody to show me another way of earning an income."

Within a variety of findings the author says that from 35 street-based "sex workers" surveyed, 47 percent said they had been threatened with violence by police, 12 percent said they had been raped by policemen, and 28 percent said they had been asked for sex by policemen in exchange for release from custody.

A spokesperson for provincial police Commissioner Mzwandile Petros did not respond to requests for comment.

SANTAC Gazette undersigns Molo Songolo and IOM arguments and emphasise that beyond Vuyokasi characterisation of her clients (it's an opinion), because since she started *working in the roads*, she doesn't like herself any more. She is ashamed.

It's not just the lack of protection from the abusers wherever they came from that she is HIV positive. It was unprotected sexual relation. Traffickers and abusers have to be repressed and condemned, as well as the real diversity routes of prostitution have to be identified and get rid of them.

Now these entrepreneurs or investors claim for the legalisation for *Sex Work Industry*! What would be the next step? Claim trafficking as part of *Sex Work Industry*?